

An estimated 15,000 primates are in private hands in the United States, and while some may think chimpanzees and monkeys are good pets, last week's incident made tragically clear that these animals are unsafe when not under supervision of trained professionals. According to the Captive Wild Animal Protection Coalition, at least 100 people have been injured by captive primates over the past decade.

Currently, twenty states prohibit keeping primates as pets, and the importation of such animals into the United States for the pet trade has been prohibited by federal law since 1975. Nevertheless, primates such as the one involved in last week's tragic incident in Stamford are bred in the United States and are readily available for purchase from exotic animal dealers and on the Internet.

By adding primates to the list of animals that cannot be purchased or transported as pets across state lines by individuals, H.R. 80 targets the pet trade and does not affect trade or transportation of animals between zoos, research facilities, or other federally licensed and regulated entities. This is a targeted, common-sense bill that will further protect our communities and promote animal welfare, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

STOP CHILD ABUSE IN RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS FOR TEENS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, as a mother and a former foster mother to 23 troubled teens, I strongly believe in the important role of the parent or legal guardian in a child's life. This is especially true when it comes to matters as serious as the health and wellbeing of that child. Prescription drugs, such as medication to treat psychiatric conditions, can have a major impact on the mind and body of an adult, let alone the young mind and body of a child. And, let's be clear: As adult as today's teens like to appear, they are still very much children in need of adult guidance. Critical decisions regarding the administration of prescription medications should only be made by a qualified medical doctor with the express consent of a parent or legal guardian.

Consider contraception, for example. Contraceptives can cause serious medical problems like blood clots and migraine headaches. Even worse, they can be dispensed in certain combinations to prevent implantation of new baby, a form of abortion that many parents and young girls find morally reprehensible. This "morning after pill" can also be used to hide evidence of sexual abuse, one of the very forms of abuse that this legislation is seeking to prevent.

Unfortunately, H.R. 911 would not only allow residential treatment facilities to change a child's prescription medication without the consent of her or his parent or legal guardian, but without even consulting them. Committee Republicans offered language to require consent before such a change in prescription medication, but it was defeated during committee consideration, almost by party line. The right

of consent is a necessary component of any decision affecting the life of a child, and should be explicitly stated in this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the parents and guardians that have raised and cared for these children know and understand their children and their medical histories best. Without language requiring consent prior to any change in prescription medication, the potential positive impact of this legislation is lost, and so is the important role of the parent in the life of his or her child.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD V. GARY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of the late Mr. Howard V. Gary, a beloved community leader in my district often credited with helping re-shape downtown Miami, who recently passed away after a five year battle with cancer.

Born on January 13, 1947, in Harlem Hospital in New York, Mr. Gary's mother moved her two sons to Miami where her family lived early in his life. He graduated from Miami Northwestern Senior High School. He continued his education by earning a bachelor's degree in political science and business administration from Morehouse College before earning a master's degree in public policy from the University of Michigan.

One of the most influential figures in Mr. Gary's life was his uncle Mr. Charles Hadley. Not only did Mr. Hadley help to take care of his family, but he was also a force in Miami politics who politicians relied on to get out the black vote.

Mr. Gary was budget director in Newark, New Jersey, before relocating to South Florida in 1976 as Miami's budget and management director. He made history in the City of Miami when he was hired as the first African-American to serve as City Manager. Just 35 years old when appointed, Mr. Gary was praised for his effective management, guiding the city through the completion of MetroRail and the construction of the downtown people mover. Bayside Marketplace was conceived under his leadership as a way to revitalize downtown Miami and the declining bayfront area.

After leaving public office, Mr. Gary dedicated his life to becoming a successful bond dealer. Howard Gary and Co., the firm he owned, had been involved in 123 bond deals around the country since 1992.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Mr. Gary's extraordinary life and many accomplishments within the South Florida community. I appreciate this opportunity to pay tribute to him before the United States House of Representatives. Moreover, Mr. Howard V. Gary was blessed with a loving family who took pleasure in every aspect of his professional career and his personal interests.

RECOGNIZING DR. SAM HORTON DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Sam Horton and to acknowledge his contributions to the Tampa Bay area.

Sam Horton, a native of rural Hillsborough County, is a direct descendant of a founding family of the historical township of Bealsville. Bealsville was founded by 12 freed slave families after the Civil War. The courageous group homesteaded by clearing their lands, built homes and began to farm the land. They were dedicated to building a life of hope and faith in God based on their newfound freedom.

Dr. Horton was educated in Florida starting with Glover Elementary and Marshall High School in Plant City. He received his Bachelor's degree at Florida A&M University in 1949 and his Doctorate at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale.

Dr. Horton immersed himself into the Tampa community after finishing his education. He started teaching in the Hillsborough County School District in 1949, becoming a principal in 1965. Dr. Horton's passion for education and his community inspired him to establish a local chapter of the National Alliance of Black School Educators. Dr. Horton began to mentor and encourage black educators in hopes of broadening the pool of talented educators. He devoted free time to Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Beulah Baptist Church, the Guardsmen and the NAACP.

Dr. Horton's career included a major first. He became the first black General Director for Secondary Education in the Hillsborough County School District in 1978. As a district administrator, he travelled several times to the African continent consulting with educators to help them improve their educational systems. Dr. Horton retired from the school system in 1991. The district honored him by naming the Jefferson High School Stadium the Dr. Sam Horton Stadium.

Dr. Horton served as president of the Hillsborough NAACP. During his tenure, he consolidated the Tampa and Plant City branches. Working closely with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Dr. Horton publicly opposed education plans that would lead to more segregated schools in Hillsborough County. He also co-founded the Empowerment Center which helps black entrepreneurs and provides tutoring for children. Dr. Horton has encouraged many local youths to participate in national academic and arts driven competitions, NAACP's ACT-SO, exposing these youths to top universities, colleges, and scholarships.

Dr. Horton was married to his wife, Doris, for 55 years and is the father of Sheila Warren and Dawyan Horton. He is the proud grandfather of Exley Jr. and Michael Warren, Clifton, Jason and Erin Horton. Michael and Exley are following in their grandfather's footsteps by teaching in Florida public schools.

The Tampa community honors Dr. Sam Horton for his outstanding contributions to the Tampa Bay area. His career in education serves as an inspiration and will continue to influence the lives of students and educators he touched in our community and abroad.